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[54] **SYSTEM MONITORING METHOD AND DEVICE INCLUDING A GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE TO VIEW AND MANIPULATE SYSTEM INFORMATION**

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[58] Field of Search **395/155-161, 395/140, 133; 340/721; 345/134, 131, 114-120; 364/525**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A system monitoring device is disclosed which is capable of displaying historical or real time information and also allows a user to set, via direct manipulation, a range of values in relation to other currently displayed information in graphical format on a computer screen and to view such relationships in an intuitive manner. A user interface is provided whereby a user can interact with information being viewed via an input device, e.g., a pointing device. The user interface of the system monitoring device of the present invention includes two interactive icons which allow a user to select and display information contained in a historical record, or log, of information, as well as real time information, and also to expand the interactive icon into a range of values so that there is a range, or hysteresis, between the point at which the activity may take place and the point at which the activity is canceled which a user can directly manipulate in an intuitive manner on a display device.

13 Claims, 27 Drawing Sheets

